Request for creating A Railway Recruitment Board at Bilaspur in Chhattisgarh

श्री रामाधार कश्यप (छत्तीसगढ़) : उपसभापति जी, छत्तीसगढ़ एक अत्यंत पिछड़ा हुआ, दलित और आदिवासियों का प्रदेश है। इस प्रदेश में अकूत खनिज संपदा का भंडार होने से यह परिवहन एवं माल भाड़े के रूप में करीब 6,000 करोड़ रुपए प्रति वर्ष यानी सबसे अधिक आय देने वाला Zone है।

उपसभापति जी, बिलासपुर Zone बनने के बाद, इस Zone में करीब 5,000 से अधिक कर्मचारियों की भर्ती होनी है। इस Zone में रेलवे भर्ती बोर्ड का न होना चिंता का विषय है।

अत: माननीय मंत्री जी से मेरा अनुरोध है कि वे बिलासपुर संभागीय मुख्यालय में भर्ती बोर्ड बनाकर इस पिछड़े इलाके के विकास में सहयोग प्रदान करें।

श्रीमती कमला मनहर (छत्तीसगढ़) : मैं अपने को इस स्पेशल मैंशन के साथ सम्बद्ध करती हूं।

Reply to the Discussion on the Statement by Prime Minister—

India's vote at I.A.E.A. on the issue of Iran's Nuclear Programme—*Contd.*

THE PRIME MINISTER (DR. MANMOHAN SINGH): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, the hon. Members have raised several points in the debate following my *suo motu* statement on our vote at the International Atomic Energy Agency on Iran's nuclear programme. I respect the views voiced by the hon. Members on this very important issue and I thank all the Members for contributing to the debate in this august House.

Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, several Members have made the point that our Foreign Policy should be guided by national interests, and that our positions on such issues should not be based on the positions of other countries. My friend, Shri Sitaram Yechury, made this important point. There can be no two opinions that Government should not take pre- determined positions, or positions at the behest of others countries. No one can dispute that it is the Government's duty to take a position on such matters after a dispassionate examination of the facts, keeping in mind our national interests. I respectfully submit that in the present case, the Government has done precisely this. We have considered the facts and have exercised our independent judgement before taking a position. This is also the very essence of

the Policy of Non-Alingment, which Shri Manoj Bhattacharya exhorted us to follow.

Sir, let me recapitulate the essential facts of the matter. Iran has a legal right to develop peaceful uses of nuclear energy, but it has also certain obligations and responsibilities based on the existence of several unanswered question that Iran agreed to start the process of assisting the Intenational Atomic Energy Agency with investigation into several past activities of its nuclear programme. An important part of this process was voluntary suspension by Iran of all enrichment and reprocessing activity in Novemeber 2004. However, since last August, Iran has renewed production of Uranium Hexafluroide, and since then, of uranium enrichment. Unresolved question regarding centrifuge imports and designs to make uranium metallic hemispheres remain. The origin of such procurement is an issue of direct concern for us.

Under these circumstances, our position was based on these facts, which emerged from an objective ivestigation by the International Atomic Energy Agency, and through information disclosed by Iran itself.

Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, there is also the question that several hon. Members raised regarding the International Atomic Energy Agency Board of Governor's meeting today. I should inform Members that it is as yet not clear in what manner this issue will be taken up by the Board of Governors today. The Resolution adopted by the Board of Governors last month mentions certain steps that Iran and the International Atomic Energy Agency will be taking. Discussions are taking place in Vienna on this matter. The Government's approach will be based on our consistent policy of promoting efforts for a resolution of issues through dialogue and discussions. I would like to assure the hon. Members that Government will take into account the sentiments expressed in this House in this context.

Some points were also made, including Shri Yechuri, regarding options that could have been explored by India and the International community. There have been discussions between Iran and Russia in this regard. We remain hopeful that solutions acceptable to all sides will be found. We do not favour confrontation, rhetoric or coercive measures as these only exacerbate tensions in the region and beyond. India has consistently stated that all sides must work to find mutually acceptable compromise solutions, and that confrontation should be avoided at all costs. For this to be possible, time must be given for diplomacy to work. I think Sir there is consensus in Parliament and in our country that confrontation is not in the interests of

India or of our region. Whenever the matter is taken up, we will work with all like-minded countries, including those from the Non-aligned Movement, for a mutually acceptable resolution of this issue.

Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, several hon. Members, including Shrimati Sushma Swaraj, expressed worries regarding our relations with Iran, and the effect of these developments on this important relationship. Sir, as I said in my *suo motu* statement, our Government is committed to widening, deepening and expanding our diverse and mutually beneficial ties with Iran. Only recently, my colleague, the Minister of State for External Affairs, Shri E. Ahammed, visited Tehran. He had meetings with the President of Iran, His Excellency Mr. Ahmadinejad, as well as several Ministers of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Shri Ahammed emphasized our desire to remain engaged with Iran on all issues of mutual interest. Our desire to further depeen the friendly and productive ties between our two contries was fully reciprocated.

Sir, Government will continue to monitor the situation closely and will deal the Iran issue, with the seriousness that it deserves.

In dealing with this issue, we will pay due attention to our relationship with Iran, the need to maintain peace and stability in the Gulf region and safeguarding our own security.

Sir, I reiterate that this House can rest assured that we will also take into account the sentiments expressed in the House. Thank you.

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU (West Bengal): Sir,...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No. That is over.

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Sir, one clarification. ...(*Interrutpions*)... One small clarification, Sir. This is an important debate, Sir. What is the problem? If the Prime Minister does not have a problem, you should not have any problem.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: All right. What is your small clairification?

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Sir, we have heard the Prime Minister. He has, to the best of the ability, tried to answer all the questions. But on this Iran question, what is actually clouding everybody's mind, not only in this House but, I suppose, in this country, is that, in the course of President Bush's address to the whole world at Purana Qila, this reference was there. Now, this is the question which is actually clouding everybody's mind as to how we are separating our position from the position that the American Government is taking. Sir, the question is that, as you have also mentioned, Iran was behaving in a certain manner in terms of extending cooperation to the IAEA inspections till August, 2005, but once this temperature of

confrontation was exacerbated by the Americans and a kind of confrontation was imported into the process of IAEA, the situation changed. So, therefore, if we are to take this position that we are not for confrontation, Sir, you could, perhaps, be more forthcoming in actually satisfying and clearing out this doubt and suspicion which is clouding people's mind in this country. I think we will be failing in our responsibility if we do not ask this question to the Prime Minister.

DR. MANMOHAN SINGH: Sir, I have stated very clearly that we do not stand for confrontation. Confrontation is not in the interests of our country nor in the interests of the gulf region. Confrontation is not inthe interests of cooperation. We want peace and stability to be preserved in this region and it will be our effort to work with other like- minded countries including members of the Non-Aligned Movement to ensure that a mutually satisfactory resolution of this complex problem is reached. Confrontation is not the route to achieving positive results. Diplomacy must be given time to succeed.

SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, ...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI: Sir, we must make our position clear. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no. ...(*Interruptions*)... That is not the question. ...(*Interruptions*)... That question has not arisen.

SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI: Sir, what is our position? ...(*Interruptions*)... India is part of that initiative. (...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री उपसभापति: अब छोड़िए, वह बात इसमें नहीं आई है।

श्री शाहिद सिद्दिकी: यह बात नहीं आई है न इस के अंदर।

†[] **श्री शाहिद صدیقی "اتر پردیش":** یہ بات نہیں آئی ہے نہ اس کے اندر۔

श्री उपसभापति: वह तो डिबेट में भी नहीं आई है, इस में भी नहीं आई है।

श्री दीपांकर मुखर्जी (पश्चिमी बंगाल): नहीं-नहीं, वह डिबेट में आई है I don't think one should feel shy about this. This has not been talked of on another soil. On Indian soil, this regime change in Iran has been talked about. Now, this issue cannot be isolated. Is there any problem in making an assertive claim that we are not part of any regime change in any State? What is the

†[] Transliteration in Urdu Script.

problem in making that statement? Why has it been stated on Indian soil that a regime change in Iran is being sought? Thank you very much, Sir.

DR. MANMOHAN SINGH: I have no hesitation is stating that we are not part of any international effort for regime change in other countries.

श्री शरद यादव (बिहार): उपसभापति जी, मैं प्रधान मंत्री जी से पूछना चाहूंगा कि अभी रशिया ने जो एक डिप्लोमेटिक पहल की है, वह कितनी कारगर होगी और उस पहल के बारे में भारत की तरफ से प्रधान मंत्री जी की पुतीन साहब से जो बात हुई है, यदि संक्षिप्त में उस के बारे में वह बता सकें तो उचित होगा। यही मेरा निवेदन है।

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI): Sir, in regard to the visit of the hon. President of the United States to India, I have already conveyed ...(*Interruptions*)... that the hon. Prime Minister will make a detailed statement tomorrow. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: Sir, he is asking about the talks the Prime Minister had with Mr. Putin. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The discussion is over. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI: Sir, we cannot have a prolonged debate like this. ...(*Interruptions*)... We already had a full-fledged debate on this issue. ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री उपसभापति: और नया डिबेट नहीं ...(व्यवधान)... क्लारिफिकेशन के ऊपर क्लारिफिकेशन नहीं हो सकता। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री शरद यादव: प्राइम मिनिस्टर जवाब देना चाह रहे थे ...(व्यवधान)... प्राइम मिनिस्टर जवाब देना चाह रहे थे ...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: We have not asked for all these questions. ...(*Interruptions*)... I am not talking about clarifications. Shri Sharad Yadav has seen it in the newspapers. Should we ourselves get educated from the newspapers?

DR. MANMOHAN SINGH: Sir, arising out of our concern that this matter of Iran's nuclear programme should nto lead to further tensions in our region. I did speak to President Putin. I discussed with him several issues of our bilateral cooperation. But, I did bring up this issue of the Iran case in the International Atomic Energy Agency. I emphasised to him that our emphasis is and our sincere desire is that this matter should be resolved without recourse to coercive methods, without creating any sort of

confrontation; that diplomacy and discussions must be given adequate space to work and the President assured me that he and Russia also are working in the same manner.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: This debate is over. Now, Special Mentions. Shri Lalit Kishore Chaturvedi.

SPECIAL MENTIONS—*Contd.*

Need to have minimum support price for Mustard and concern over storage of mustard crop in Rajasthan

श्री ललित किशोर चतुर्वेदी (राजस्थान): माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से राजस्थान में सरसों के समर्थन मूल्य और बेचान के विषय में एक अविलम्ब लोक महत्व का मुद्दा उठा रहा हूं।

उपसभापति महोदय, राजस्थान में सरसों की समर्थन मूल्य पर खरीद का मुद्दा पिछले वर्ष की तरह इस वर्ष की गम्भीर हो गया है। इस वर्ष सरसों की खेती पिछले वर्ष की अपेक्षा अधिक हुई है। पाले से फसलों को नुकसान हुआ है, फिर भी लगभग 20 लाख मेट्रिक टन सरसों की खरीद की व्यवस्था करनी होगी। गत् वर्ष की खरीद में से 10 लाख मेट्रिक टन का भण्डार अभी भी राजस्थान में भण्डारण क्षमता को रोके हुए है। भण्डारण क्षमता बढ़ाये जाने की तत्काल आवश्यकता है।

इस वर्ष समर्थन मूल्य पर खरीद के लिए नाफेड को लगभग 3500 करोड़ रुपयों की आवश्यकता होगी। इसके लिए लगभग 900 करोड़ की राशि राजफैड को तत्काल उपलब्ध कराना आवश्यक होगा।

सरसों के भण्डारण के लिए निम्न कदम उठाये जाने आवश्यक हैं—

1. वर्तमान 10 लाख मेट्रिक टन के भण्डार को देश के अन्य भागों में शिफ्ट किया जाए;
2. कम-से-कम 2 लाख मेट्रिक टन सरसों का प्रोसेसिंग करने के निर्देश दिए जाएं;
3. पड़ोसी राज्यों, यथा-पंजाब, हरियाणा, उत्तर प्रदेश, गुजरात में उपलब्ध भण्डारण क्षमता का उपयोग किया जाए;
4. नाफेड के लिए रुपए 3500 करोड़ एवं राजफैड के लिए रुपए 900 करोड़ अग्रिम राशि की तत्काल व्यवस्था की जाए;
5. राजस्थान के बाहर के गोदामों से रसीद प्राप्त करने में समय लग सकता है, अतः प्रूफ ऑफ डिस्पेच के आधार पर किसानों को भुगतान की व्यवस्था की जाए।

सरसों की फसल बहुत बड़ी मात्रा में आने लग गई है, अतः सारी व्यवस्था युद्ध स्तर पर की जाने की आवश्यकता है। राज्य सरकार इस ओर केन्द्र सरकार का ध्यान आकर्षित कर चुकी है, किन्तु